

Butterflies of Great Britain and Ireland, Vol. 10 : 393) I understand that none of these species have previously been recorded from any of the three pre-1974 counties (Breconshire, Radnorshire and Montgomeryshire) which constitute the present administrative county of Powys.

Thanks are extended to Dr. F. Slater for operating the trap at Llysdinam. ADRIAN M. RILEY, Entomology and Nematology Department, Rothamsted Experimental Station, Harpenden, Herts, AL5 2JQ.

NOTES FROM THE ISLE OF CANNA — The first fortnight of December 1987 produced a remarkable period of sustained calm, sunny weather in the Hebrides, with high barometric readings. On December 9th, Mrs. W. MacKinnon, of the National Trust, found a red admiral (*Vanessa atalanta* L) fluttering inside one of her windows. *Atalanta* was more numerous on Canna in the autumn of 1987 than for many years; another butterfly unusually common was the speckled wood, *Pararge aegeria* L. In contrast, the small tortoiseshell, *Aglais urticae* L. was severely reduced in numbers by heavy May showers when the butterfly eggs were hatching, and very few specimens were seen during the year. Of the moths, the winter moth, *Operopthera brumata* L. is now unusually common, with the males being seen regularly at lighted windows. J. L. CAMBELL
Isle of Canna, Hebrides.

UROCERUS AUGUR KLUG. (HYM.: SYMPHYTA) NEW TO GUERNSEY — On 23.viii.1987 I was given a large female "horn-tail" very similar to *Urocerus gigas*, but with a second narrow band on the abdomen, and the distal threequarters of the hind femora black. The insect was found alongside a delivered box of groceries on the back doorstep of a cottage in St. Saviours. *U. augur* is a continental species, rarely found on mainland Britain.

My thanks are due to Mr. N. Springate of the British Museum (Natural History) for identifying this insect. R. A. AUSTIN, Maymyo, Les Amballes, St. Peter Port, Guernsey.

Current Literature

Butterflies of the London Area by Colin W. Plant. 199pp. many colour illustrations. 42 maps. 190 x 230 mm. Boards. London Natural History Society 1987. £15.95

A brief forward and preface is followed by a detailed chapter describing the history of butterfly recording in the London area. There follows sections on geology, butterfly habitats in London, conservation, collecting, introductions, notes on attracting butterflies to the garden and further reading. The bulk of the book com-